AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Figures 1 and 6 with new Figures 1 and 6 submitted herewith.

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 23-27, with the following paragraph:

Figure 1 shows a comparison between the nucleotide sequence of the first 376 base pairs of the region immediately 5' of the transcription initiation site of the mouse (mGDF) (SEQ ID NO:2) and human (hGDF) (SEQ ID NO:3) GDF-9 genes. The sequences are oriented 3' to 5' so that the numbering of nucleotides (+1) begins after the ATG translation start codon. As shown, the overall identity between the mGDF and hGDF sequences is 71.3%.

Please replace the paragraph at page 21, lines 1-5, with the following paragraph:

Of the two lines of transgenic mice incorporating the first GDF-9-GFP construct (containing 10 kb of the 5' flanking sequence), *in situ* hybridization and multi-tissue northern blot analysis of mouse tissues demonstrated marked ovary-specific expression in the first line (Figure5 3). The presence of signal in other tissues in the second line was most likely due to elements present at the site of transgene integration.

Please replace the paragraph at page 21, lines 6-15, with the following paragraph:

Six lines of mice carrying the second GDF-9-GFP construct were established. This construct contains only 3.3 kb of 5' flanking sequence linked to an enhanced version of GFP. Two of the six mouse lines showed oocyte-specific expression in the ovary by in situ hybridization. By multi-tissue northern blot analysis, signal was detected in the ovary, and to a much higher level in the testis (Figures 3 and 4 4 and 5). In situ hybridization for eGFP in the testis demonstrated that expression was restricted to the germ cells, specifically, primary spermatocytes through round spermatid stages. Similar studies in the ovary determined that expression is limited to the oocytes. One of the two lines also had a strong signal in the lung, most likely attributable to integration of the transgene near a strong lung-specific promoter or enhancer.